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Forestry, Bioenergy, and Climate change Expert Janaki R.R. Alavalapati to Visit Belize on Behalf of ECPA Senior Fellows



Washington, D.C., November 1, 2012 – [Janaki R.R. Alavalapati](#), a Senior Fellow in the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), will be traveling to Belize November 6 through November 8, 2012 to attend and host the Building Capacities for Sustainable Forested Landscapes' Stakeholders Forum at the University of Belize. Dr. Alavalapati specializes in sustainable forests and land use and is a Professor at [Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University](#) where he heads the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation. As a Jefferson Science Fellow 2007-08 at the U.S. Department of State, he served as a Senior Advisor of International Energy Affairs.

[The Senior ECPA Fellows](#) program is a network of high-level technical experts in the fields of climate change and energy who travel between countries in the Western Hemisphere to consult with governments or other institutions. The program is sponsored by the [U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Western Hemispheric Affairs](#) and administered by [Partners of the Americas](#). There are currently [20 Senior ECPA Fellows](#) who participate in these international exchanges. The main areas of focus for the program are: energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy infrastructure, energy poverty and access, sustainable forestry and land use, and climate change adaptation.

Dr. Alavalapati has focused his research on sustainable forests and landscapes, climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable biomass energy, REDD environmental services, community forestry, agroforestry, and policy impact analysis.

As a main organizer of the Building Capacities for Sustainable Forested Landscapes' Stakeholders Forum in Belize, Dr. Alavalapati will present on the topic of "Forests for Energy Security and Climate Mitigation: Challenges and Opportunities." His visit to Belize will also include a trip to Yalbec Ranch where Dr. Alavalapati will tour their facility and saw mill in an effort to discuss forest management best practices. On his final day, Dr. Alavalapati will lead the Roundtable for Capacity Building Initiative discussion to address the next steps in promoting sustainable forestry methods in Belize.

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